

## Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 SAB-01 SAM-01 MC-02 ACDA-05 IO-10 /081 W

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R 290606Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5217

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5109

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR US JO

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN NEWS MEDIA RENEWS BLITZ ON US ARMS

SALE DEBATE

REF: AMMAN 4997

1. AFTER PERIOD OF COMPARATIVE QUIET, JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH PRESS AND RADIO HAS RENEWED ITS ATTACKS ON "ZIONISTS CONGRESSMEN WHO SUPPORT CURRENT MOVES TO LIMITED ARMS SALE TO JORDAN. IN BLITZ REMINISCENT OF PUBLICITY SURROUNDING KING'S JULY 23 INTERVIEW (REFTEL) AMMAN NEWS MEDIA JULY 27 AND 28 HAVE GIVEN WIDE COVERAGE TO LENGTHY ANNOUNCEMENT BY PM RIFIA THAT GOJ CABINET HAS REVIEWED CIRCUMSTANCES OF MISSILE DEBATE AND GIVES FULL SUPPORT KING HUSSEIN'S "BRAVE NATIONAL STAND" ON SUBJECT (FBIS JN271947Y) CABINET SAID RIFAI "STRONGLY DENOUNCES" GROUP OF ANTI SALE CONGRESSMEN FOR ITS "BLATANT BIAS" IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL. AT SAME TIME CABINET EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION TO SUPPORTERS IN CONGRESS OF "JORDANIAN AND ARAB CAUSE" NOTING THAT THESE SUPPORTERS

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EXPRESS REBELLION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AGAINST ZIONIST

ATTEMPTS TO PUT ISRAEL'S INTERESTS ABOVE THOSE OF US  
RIFAI CHARACTERIZED SITUATION AS "OPEN  
CONFLICT BETWEEN AN ADMINISTRATION REPRESENTING THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE, THEIR WILL AND THEIR DESIRES AND A  
GROUP REPRESENTING THE DESIRES AND WILL OF ISRAEL." IN  
INTERVIEW ACCOMPANYING STATEMENT, RIFAI ADDED THAT KING  
HUSSEIN HAD INFORMED USG "IN WRITING" THAT HE INTENDS TO  
SECURE ARMS FOR JORDAN FROM ANY SOURCE.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH KING'S JULY 23 "WARNING TO  
CONGRESS THAT HE WOULD SEEK ALTERNATIVE ARMS SOURCES IF  
NECESSARY WAS THEN REGARDED BY MANY JORDANIANS CYNICS AS  
MERELY POLITICAL PLOY TO GARNER DOMESTIC SUPPORT FOR  
DOUBTERS CAN NOW BE FOUND. PUBLICITY GIVEN KING'S STAND  
BY PRESS AND RADIO IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES IN ADDITION  
TO BLANKET COVERAGE IN JORDAN HAS TURNED THE CORNER AND  
IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT KING IS NOW IN A PUBLIC POSITION FROM  
WHICH HE CANNOT RETREAT WITHOUT SERIOUS LOSS. IT IS ALSO  
CLEAR THAT IN CABINET ACTION, RIFAI HAS SOUGHT TO CONFIRM  
ON THE RECORD AND PUBLICLY WHAT KING HAS BEEN TELLING US  
PRIVATELY SO THAT THERE WILL BE NO POSSIBLE MISINTERPRETA-  
TION OF HIS STAND IN US IN JORDAN AMONG HIS ARAB  
FRIENDS AND IN ISRAEL.  
PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS, POLICIES, MILITARY SALES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, US, JO  
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